



CNCA COMMENTS

A.A. Confidential—September 2020

www.cnca06.org



California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

The Summer Assembly was incredible. As an Area, we were able to experience a vote, a minority opinion, and a second vote – resulting in the creation of a standing committee for Technology.

We are now seeking out volunteers to help start the newly-approved committee; at this point, the scope of the committee (or the number of members on the committee) is undefined. Members selected to serve through the rest of this panel (which ends in December) would help create guidelines and better define the role of this committee. Anyone interested can send me an email [through the Area website](#) to volunteer.

We now begin work on the Election Assembly in November. More information about how we will be voting will be shared soon.

At our Area Committee meeting in August, we rejected a proposal to lease a storage unit for use by the Area Officers, and we approved a request to financially support the Hispanic Women's Workshop on a yearly basis. With those motions now off of our agenda, we are now discussing business that originated after the pandemic began.

What amazes me is that we *really* did it. We have been able to transition to a virtual Area, and despite the challenges we have faced (and continue to face), we continue to carry on an 85-year legacy of one alcoholic reaching out and helping another. Service work at this level may not always be glamorous or exciting, but it has deep impact that we might not ever get to see ourselves. Consider that if one person gets sober because of the service you have done, you will have saved that person's life, and the lives of countless others.

On June 28, 1935, Bill and Bob went to Akron's City Hospital and brought the still-developing message of AA to the third sober member of our fellowship. A few days before, Dr. Bob had said to Bill: "If you and I are going to stay sober, we had better get busy."

We have been busy ever since.

Eric L.
CNCA Chair Panel 69

Perpetual Change

The news that planning for the 71st General Service Conference is proceeding on the basis that it will be virtual, reminds me that our fellowship will continue to rely on new technology for the foreseeable future.

Next time around, I have faith that we will incorporate the lessons learned this year so that next year's Conference can feel more confident about dispatching the business of A.A. and tackling some of the issues that interruption of our comfortable lives has thrown into stark relief. I wonder if we hadn't become a little too complacent and satisfied with things being a certain way.

The purpose of our General Service Conference is to perpetuate A.A., not the status quo. Perpetual change is what we're about. Sometimes those changes can appear trivial, but nothing is trivial when you're in the business of saving lives. The subtleties of the wording and the manner in which our life-giving message of recovery is delivered can make all the difference between life and death. We alcoholics are a sensitive bunch consisting of every diverse shade of humanity and what works for one may repel another. We owe it to our sisters and brothers who have yet to find us to meet them where they are and communicate in terms they understand.

That's why now is such an exciting time, for our fellowship and for General Service. We've discovered that we can adapt and adapt quickly. Hopefully, this gives us courage to cultivate a fresh appetite to get our teeth into some of our stalest fare, not with a change for change sake attitude, but with a searching and fearless mindset.

Our world has been shaken in unpleasant ways, yes, but hopefully also in ways that open up our minds with the same willingness we know we need for inventory.

Yes, it's an exciting time and as Panel 69 draws to a conclusion I feel the import of our Responsibility Declaration reverberate in my heart. Sometimes the hand of A.A. is indeed my hand, but most often it's someone else's, be they home group member, GSR, trustee, or special worker. My responsibility is to ensure that their hands are also there.

I hope you will join me in in our continual opportunity to develop new service leadership so that we can honor this legacy of perpetual change.

Teddy B.-W.,
CNCA Panel 69 Delegate

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, August 22, 2020

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held virtually on August 22, 2020. Eric L. opened the meeting at 12:30 pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Nora H. (District 70) read the AA Preamble, Tradition 07 was read in Spanish by Angela O. (District 10), Jackie B. (District 06) read Concept 07. Introductions: (5) GSRs, (0) DCMs. There were 5 Past Delegates: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28 - Maine), Barbara M. (Panel 41), David N. (Panel 59), who currently serves as a General Service Trustee, Joann L. (Panel 67). The July 2020 financial report was published in the June issue of Comments and Comentarios. Approval of the July 2020 Area Committee Minutes: Approved 103 attendances. Birthdays: 146 years.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – Teddy B-W: Please would you thank your groups for their continued support of their Central Offices. The audit of A.A.'s 2019 financial statements has now been completed I have sent the information out to the DCMCs. The call for stories for the pamphlet, A.A. For the Older Alcoholic, has been reopened so that we can hopefully attract stories, the deadline is December 15. Our Trustees met at the beginning of this month and started sifting through the 58 Committee Considerations that were made at the Conference this year and so I will be sharing a lot more soon. I continue to deliver my Conference Report around the area and am grateful for that opportunity. Thank you to everyone who has emailed me to volunteer for service on a PRAASA 2024 Committee. While it's going to be a while before most committees get into action, the venue and finance committees will need to start now. If you are available to serve and have not yet done so, email me at delegate.p69@cnca06.org.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Jennifer B: Thank you all for a wonderful Summer Assembly, I have had the pleasure of reliving the passion of the business meeting as I typed up my notes from the day. The Alternate Delegates of the North East Region have reached out to all the other Alternate Delegates in the 93 Areas and we will start meeting regularly on zoom to support each other in service. I will be giving my officer job description in September. Passing it on and letting it go is part of our spiritual act of rotation.

CHAIR – Eric L: Area Officers are discussing next steps regarding the formation of a Technology committee, now that the motion was approved at the Summer Assembly.

TREASURER – Dennis H: CNCA Finances are in good shape. We continue to see the pattern that has been maintained since April. Group contributions are down but expenses are also falling. Our checking account balance continues to grow. Since April our balance has increased by almost

\$32,000. Our main expenses continue to be Interpretation and rent on the Archive space in Walnut Creek. After paying expenses for August I expect our end of month balance to around \$46,500. As always, if you would like to make a contribution online you can do so at CNCA06.org.

REGISTRAR – Erica G: After speaking with three GSO employees, I've learned an online meeting is just that, a meeting, not a group. They can register with GSO and go into a list of online meetings and they can have something called a customer id number, which is similar to - but not the same as - a group number, and they can make contributions. They are considered international in nature, so they are not technically considered part of an area or a district. That means they cannot officially have a registered GSR and are not considered part of our service structure. I don't know all the answers we will learn by trial and error.

RECORDING SECRETARY – Miguel H: Thank you all for your support and special thanks to Jennifer for taking notes at the Summer Assembly. Please make sure you send me your reports to make it part of the monthly minutes in the comments and comentarios.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – Coree H: This year's Election Assembly is going to be another example of "strange happenings" of AA, given that it will be our first experience as an Area to have a 3rd legacy election virtually. I have heard from reliable sources that the Assembly Ad Hoc is coordinating with CNIA to make sure that the Election Assembly goes as smoothly as possible. We have picked the dates of the Assemblies for Panel 71. For questions you're welcome to email me or just check in the Comments or go to <https://cnca06.org>.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – Magdaleno O: GV: In 2019, AA Grapevine began producing explainer videos and short videos using member's personal stories from the AA Grapevine Audio Project to launch a Grapevine You Tube channel, which is still in its early stages. LV: In August 2019, AA Grapevine completed the La Viña digital Story Archive project, the first archive of Spanish language A.A. recovery stories. It is expected to launch with the new AAGV Website design for 2020. On April 10, 1939, 4,650 copies of the Big Book became available for distribution. The grand bill for the print run was \$1,783 dollars, today, over 40 million copies have been sold.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 01 (Monterey) – Susan G: We continue to have good participation at our monthly meeting and a new sub-district meeting for GSR's. Newly formed meetings are popping up. Several GSR's gave reports on what they heard, saw, and felt after attending the Virtual Summer Assembly. Thank you to our visiting officer for sharing on the California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation motion.

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020, Cont'd.

District 02 (Salinas/San Benito) – Brian M: We had our delegate's report this month. District 02 is discussing elections, increased participation and accessibility of members challenged with technology.

District 03 (Santa Cruz) – Murias O: We had a house-keeping motion to donate funds GSO. We started with District officers job description. Website coordination had their first meeting. We returned our keys and we won't have access to the building to hold our District meetings for the rest of the year. Santa Cruz has many fires and about 25 percent of the Santa Cruz as been evacuated, about 20,000 people. We are working on how to bring meetings to 6 evacuation centers.

District 04 (Santa Clara North) – Julie N: Our visiting area officer gave a heartfelt spiritual discussion on making yourself available. We had a quiet district meeting for the first time this year. Intergroup Central Office now has Web chat up and running with limited trained volunteers. This will enhance the 24 hour hotline. Our Unity Day will be August 29th.

District 40 (Santa Clara South) – Manuel R: This month we had our delegate's report with time for a Q & A session. District 04 and 40 are hosting our Unity Day on August 29th.

District 05 (San Mateo) – Matt D: We have spent time within District 05 meetings exploring ways to effectively pass on our positions virtually & maintaining interest in General Service. Our district registrar gave a presentation on Passing it on in General Service with enthusiasm. Our visiting Area Officer spoke to us about the District Committee Position and its importance within our structure. We voted to make a financial contribution to GSO in response to the financial impact of COVID-19.

District 06 (San Francisco) – Justin H: A big thank you to all who attended the Summer Workshop Assembly. Thank you as well to our visiting Area Officer for their informative and helpful presentation about how to read the Conference Report. We are preparing for the upcoming District Officer transition and discussion on revising Job Descriptions. Our Unity Day will take place on Saturday, October 10th.

District 07 (Alameda North) – Vivian K: Recovery meetings are going strong and expanding across city, state, and country. The Eastbay Intergroup, our Central Office, continues to provide curb side pickup for literature 3 times a week. The telephone hotline and 12-step response teams are well supported by volunteers and very active.

District 70 (Alameda South) – Nora H: Thank you to area officer for the information and the Q & A. We had great feed back from the Summer Assembly. Thank you for the hard copies of the conference reports.

District 08 (Contra Costa) – Richard W: Thank You to Teddy for giving a phenomenal Delegate's Report this month. District 08 is having a workshop next Saturday August 29th at 2 pm called Covid-19 Learn with us. On September 19th at 2 pm our PI and CPC committees will be hosting a workshop. Sunday September 27th our District will be hosting a Literature event.

District 09 (Solano South) – Steve M: No Report

District 90 (Solano North) Terri M: District 90 will host a Virtual Unity Day on October / 10 / 20. We continue to give job descriptions for our upcoming elections.

District 10 (Marin) – Gusty M: We continue to have new general service representatives at our virtual district meeting. We are looking forward to the virtual election assembly. Marin Unity Day will be October 17th 11-2. We are currently discussing a motion to create a district accessibilities committee. Marin Health and Human Service is in the process of creating guidelines for outdoor recovery based meetings, along with certain Marin County Parks allowing recovery groups to apply for a permit to meet in the parks.

District 11 (Napa) – Chitra S: Our visiting Area Officer led us through the basics business meeting, and the lifecycle of a motion. Our District Secretary shared on her understanding and experience of the four annual Assemblies. A GSR gave a presentation on who is missing from our virtual rooms. We began conversation on creating a District technology committee.

District 12 (Sonoma) – Claudia N: We had 5 new GSR at our last meeting. Our committees are trying to find ways to work together and continue their 12-step work and are still coming across challenges. A big thanks to Napa and all for putting such a wonderful Summer Assembly. We distributed monies to Area & GSO this past month and are seeing a slight uptick. We are going through job descriptions at our District Meeting so we can hold elections in November. We had changed the date for our Unity Day event, it will be on October 10th, from 10-2.

District 13 (Lake County) – Sherrie R: We are thankful to our visiting area officer for their input at this month's district meeting, it was extremely informative. District 13 fellowships continue to have daily, multiple virtual meetings. We also have daily in person meetings at our Lakeport Fellowship Hall. And a men's in person meeting Friday nights.

District 14 (Mendocino) – Amy M: Virtual meetings and events in our district remain steady. A group in Ukiah holding in person meetings twice a day, seven days a weeks and is financially thriving. In Fort Bragg live meetings are held most days of the week. A group in the town of Piercy has resumed there twice a week meeting in an

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020, Cont'd.

outdoor setting. We heard our Delegate Report on Sunday 16th. MENDYPAA has been holding virtual Traditions Workshop for the month of August, and three Traditions each Sunday. We will begin reviewing our job descriptions and best practices for Pass It On.

District 15 (Humboldt/Del Norte) – Jerry C : We are now using our own platform for our virtual district meeting. We have been approved by the city for a live meeting in a Crescent City location with two meetings a day. Live meetings and hybrid meetings are working well for us.

District 16 (Spanish Central) – Emma M: Thank you area officer for helping us adapting to this new ways of virtual meetings. In August 30 we will celebrate district 16 anniversary. We will be holding our District elections in October.

District 17 (Spanish South) – Fernando R: District 17 as been holding virtual meetings with more participation. We've been supporting meetings on best practices on the virtual platforms. We got our hard copies of the Conference reports for distribution. We are planning our pass it on and district elections. We're working to bring Spanish speaking districts out of being remote community due to the technology barriers.

District 18 (Spanish North) – Jose F: We will have a new address and location once we get back to in person meetings. We had more participation this month in our business meeting. Teddy will be participating in the celebration of district 18's anniversary on September 27.

District 19 (Spanish South South) – Julio F: We hosted the Interdistrictal, thank you area for facilitating the us of CNCA's virtual platform. GSRs refused to use virtual meetings and groups continue to meet in person. We continue to work meeting four times at month. We haven't chosen a date to hold elections at the District.

District 20 (Spanish East) – Jose M: We continue to meet virtually 3 times a month for study, business and the preparation of our agenda. We continue to be motivated to serve at our next panel. We tried hybrid business meeting and it worked very well. We had our delegate report on July 26. We participated in the interdistrictal hosted by District 19.

AREA SUB-COMMITTEES AND SHARING SESSIONS

Accessibilities- Alan W: We're all still figuring out the pivot to virtual meetings, and the communication and collaboration between service entities is extremely helpful. Supporting members and newcomers in making the leap tends to happen mostly between individuals and at meeting level. I wanted to thank the DCMCs who responded to my email last month asking about accessibili-

ties committees. One idea I heard and wanted to pass on: for districts who don't have an accessibilities committee yet, you are very welcome to send a formal or informal liaison to the area committee to help your district stay connected. Anyone who feels passion for the Responsibility Statement will have a lot to contribute.

Archives – Denise G: As stated before, we are fortunate that many of us can continue to work on our projects from home virtually without the availability of the repository. We continue to work on digitization of our 2019-2020 records for both Area and our districts. We are close to finalizing the proposed draft for revision of the CNCA guidelines. Our historian has started work on a report on how CNCA has been impacted and how adjustments have been made due to the Covid-19. We look forward to publishing this report on the CNCA website. Our next committee meeting will be held the second Saturday of September- 9/12/2020, from 12:00-1:00PM

Bridging the Gap – Larry B: We reviewed job descriptions for three of our committee officer positions and shared a draft of Zoom presentation template. We also reviewed a couple screen shares our presenters can incorporate into their presentations, including "Who We Are". Two districts are scheduled to make their first Zoom presentations next month. Committee officers are actively supporting both districts. Next Month we will be discussing the role and responsibility of volunteers in a meeting restricted environment.

Finance – Don L: The finance committee met and reviewed the current financial status and projected income and expenses. The finance committee has reviewed the current motions that have financial impact. The committee also presented two items of new business as well as an update to the Area Expense Reimbursement Guidelines. Work is continuing in the preparation of the 2021 budget.

PI/CPC – Jennifer B: Members of PI and CPC joined our friends in BTG, H&I, and Accessibilities our first virtual Joint Committee Meeting Sunday August 23rd. At our last PI/CPC meeting, members from District 08 gave a great presentation on "Attraction vs. Promotion." Next month, we will talk about "Holding Workshops to Educate Members about PI and CPC." GSO is developing more and better digital resources, we need to adapt in order to reach both the general public and professionals in ways they are now accustomed to receiving information.

Website – Drew B: We have a new cleaner look on our website please take the time to explore and make sure you feel comfortable, the structure haven't change. It's also available on English and Spanish, we love to gave you feed back.

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020, Cont'd.

Interpretation and Translation – James B: The summer assembly is now in the books and things went well. Jackie is working on a database of professional ASL & Spanish interpreters/translators that have been used throughout the Area. This can include District, Intergroup, YPAA, and or any others used by AA. If you have any information to share, please contact Jackie. We discussed various options of how to set the next panel up for success. We are working on preparations for the upcoming election assembly.

CNCA *Comments / Comentarios*– Kelly H: The *Comments & Comentarios* were distributed by the Area Chair & posted on the CNCA website by August 12. Thanks to our translators and the web committees for their assistance. Next month we'll continue featuring descriptions of Area service positions and the business meeting minutes from our Summer Assembly. Please ask your district registrar or DCMC to update their email address list, or download at CNCA06.org, if you didn't already receive your copy.

Virtual Ad-Hoc Committee - Coree H: Ad Hoc is hard at work coordinating with CNIA to make sure that the Election Assembly goes as smoothly as possible. Under that assumption, you may be wondering "Wouldn't that drastically cut down the length of the Assembly?" The answer to that is yes, since most of the Election Assembly is about collecting and counting votes, which is done automatically in Zoom. We will continue discussing this with the officers and see what works best.

DCM Sharing Session – Sarah B: We had a visitor from Area 72 Western Washington share on Welcoming Newcomers. Virtual meetings present a variety of challenges in reaching newcomers, but also a unique opportunity to connect alcoholics across the globe and grow our fellowship. Members shared ways they are adapting to meet the need to welcome and carry the message to newcomers including creating new service commitments making time for virtual fellowship and/or Q&A for newcomers after the meeting. The speaker also shared about discussions taking place to move toward developing virtual districts.

Literature/*Grapevine/La Viña* –Magdaleno O: We talk about "The Principle of Rotation" with the conclusion of passing on the Service that you love so much, practicing humility. Additionally, considering serving as a DCM or DCM still having the opportunity to continue serving at the area either as an area officer or been part of the sub committees.

H&I Liaison – Karen B: We are offering virtual meetings to the facilities that are willing to accommodate the equipment to do so. Currently we cannot take meetings into correctional facilities. Visitation Sponsor Service is currently on hold. Temporarily contact with inmates in the program is via mail. We continue to accept applications for the IVSS Program, conduct virtual orientations, and estab-

lish new sponsorship matches. The need for contact from outside AA members is greater than ever. Our finances remain strong. We have asked our areas to offer literature to all of our facilities whether or not we are holding meetings during the COVID pandemic.

YPAA – Jackie B: We are hoping to host ICYPAA in San Francisco in 2022, the 61st ICYPAA will be held virtually this year on September 4-6. The Southwestern Area YPAA Conference will be held online from September 17-19. Up coming YPAAs events and virtual meetings happening in our area for more information please contact me via email.

Dual Diagnosis Conference – Patrick B: This will be an annual micro conference and the date will be October 21st. We'll have people participating from the accessibility and H & I committees. It will be a hybrid meeting.

Hispanic Women Workshop: Sandra G: We held a meeting on August 8. We discussed whether to allow men or al-anons to attend with the speculation that they would only observe but not have any participation, and voted in favor. The workshop will be held virtually and areas will not contribute this time. We elected Sheila M. from district 20 as one of our speakers. We continue to hold our meeting virtually every Friday from 5 to 6:30 pm. We elected a theme and the logo, "Even the most beautiful woman withers out if you don't take care of her."

La Viña Aniversario – Genaro G: On July 25 a virtual meeting was held to celebrate the 24th Anniversary of La Viña with the participation from areas of the Pacific Region and other countries, with approx 55 people.

The host Area 03 thanks all the areas for their attendance.

HOUSEKEEPING MOTIONS

- "That District 18 be granted administrative access to the Area's Zoom account on September 27, 2020, to host a District anniversary". – *Presented by District 18*
Voting: 0 objections / motion passed

GUIDELINES

- Expense Reimbursement guidelines – presented by the Finance committee
- One of the changes is reimbursement schedule, additional travel, interpretation and translation; we also edited items approved previously by area. Document available also in Spanish
- Q: I saw the hotels are still 100 dls a night, is it going to be increased to 110 dls? A: currently it is 100 dls / Q: for some time in the web side we had the check request form posted, but for some reason not a expense report form, can we add that to this guidelines? A: I will work with Dennis our treasure but that was one of the reason for putting our reimbursements on a schedule so they are more clear / Q: I have a question on the process, we usually

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020, Cont'd.

don't approved at the same meeting a motion is presented to give folks time to review the materials and make any suggestions. A: ok let's wait a month. To be voted on at September's ACM.

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS

- "That CNCA requires affirmation of auto liability coverage for any member or contractor that CNCA reimburses for mileage. The Area Treasurer will be responsible for collecting and maintaining such affirmation". – *Presented by the Finance committee*

We generally have three different kinds of insurance, the one we are discussing is the yearly liability insurance. In case of accidents that may occur during anything that is reimbursable travel.

Q: Is this change being required by our insurance? And if not and the motion doesn't pass the insurance won't be available or will the price of the insurance be increased?

A: we won't know until we apply for insurance next time / Q: why are we asking for this ? A: the insurance provider was asking for it, it's a common policy that requires one more step to our current process. Vote: 37 area business / 2 assembly business: Area Business.

- "That CNCA increase the reimbursement amount for qualified hotel stays from \$100 to \$150 per night". – *Presented by the Finance committee*

Vote: 41 area business / 2 assembly business: Area Business

Old Business

- "That CNCA lease a storage unit for use by the Area Officers at a cost not to exceed \$150 a month." – *presented by Coree H., Assembly Coordinator*

Each of the officers store their own stuff, assembly coordinator has to store all the materials at parents' house, and literature coordinator has more gear / if you come to get the stuff you have to drive and we have a responsibility to use groups money prudently / we have boxes as a BTG chair, we store everything at my house we didn't have any option / it could be good to have storage for all the other committees, we should have the motion better described and make a budget available in particular circumstances / space is a precious commodity, let's use the line item on the budget how ever its need it / we are not having an area assembly soon, people are stuck with all this material until who knows when/ when I got elected as assembly coordinator, I was a single women in a single room apartment, I understand but we read the job description, we have lots of other service positions that we can serve in, host committee and assembly committee with different material, I'm not in favor of this motion / I'd like to thank the area to make all service possible, Q:

do we have an inventory of what needs to be storage? A: each officers know what they have / I have a concern on 1800 dls at year without going to assemblies using groups money, we can come from different distances and reimburse officers for mileage also? I'm opposed passing a motion of this nature during the pandemic / Q: where is the location? A: it's undefined / we also need an inventory on what we need and what we don't need / expending groups money is not ok, once when we start it's going to be motion after motion / the motion should be, who's willing to help store our stuff / when we get to comfortable we push away the idea of service if it isn't comfortable, what about going to any lengths and of serving with the logistics and gratitude of AA / Do we have an other line item that can pay for that like petty cash? A: no. / this motion doesn't reflect the total expenses such driving to unknown defined storage location, this motion exceeds the money that District 01 sent to CNCA 06 at year. Voted: 2/3 majority / 33 against / 11 favor: Motion failed.

- "That CNCA add a line item to future budgets, with the approval of a housekeeping motion, to authorize an annual contribution no greater than \$600 to the Hispanic Women's Workshop". – *presented by Sandra G. and Ana V.*

This has been a very supportive workshop / Q: lots of conferences are happening virtually now, I'd like to hear more specific on how this help alcoholics / we're throwing money at the problem instead to look for solutions / I'm in favor for this motion, this accomplished our primary purpose / I have been a participating member at this conference, we don't need to worry for this now, we can postpone this item, it impacts positively to support / this is extremely important / I have concerns, women in favor over men, having money contribution for women over men it's not ok / this can do a lot for this groups and what they need, we need to support them so they can become strong / I'm strongly in favor, I attended this event and it's a life changing event, Hispanic women are facing a problem to practice AA / I'm in favor, I have seen the results, how much we are learning and the gratitude they always express with action, it's important to have them informed and to protect them selves / the growth I saw in the Hispanic women and women participating from all over / it was hard to start since we were a remote community, we have women from Spain joining the meeting, we're reaching more females and we unify with area 03 / every time they've asked for support we do it/ why is this not in the accessibility committee? Voted: 36 yes / 12 no / 0 abstentions: motion passed.\nMinority Opinion: long form of tradition 7th how AA started in the beginning and we should be self supporting in the

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL THROUGH JULY 31, 2020

California Northern Coastal Area Budget vs. Actuals: 2020 Budget - FY20 P&L January—July 2020

	Actual	Total Budget	% of Budget
Revenue			
002 Group Contributions	52,433.20	63,722.00	82.28 %
003 District Contributions	5,807.64	7,437.00	78.09 %
004 Assembly Contributions	790.85	3,975.00	19.90 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	1,329.03	2,169.00	61.27 %
006 H & I Archives Rent		0.00	
007 CNCA Subscriptions		12.00	
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	770.25	601.00	128.16 %
010 Interest Income	2.00	3.35	59.70 %
Income	0.07		
Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue	0.00		
Total Revenue	\$61,133.04	\$77,919.35	78.46 %
Gross Profit	\$61,133.04	\$77,919.35	78.46 %
Expenditures			
012 EXPENSE			
Total 013 Delegate Expense	1,538.91	5,249.04	29.32 %
Total 038 Officer Expense	4,699.01	15,545.02	30.23 %
Total 093 Committee Expenses	8,967.42	17,102.09	52.43 %
Total 158 General Expenses	15,030.62	42,471.68	35.39 %
Total 012 EXPENSE	30,235.96	80,367.83	37.62 %
2019 Fall Assembly	-4,500.84	0.00	
Pacific Region Hospitality Room	41.44	0.00	
PRAASA 2024	-9,418.48		
Total Expenditures	\$16,358.08	\$80,367.83	20.35 %
Net Operating Revenue	\$44,774.96	-\$ 2,448.48	-1,828.68 %
Net Revenue	\$44,774.96	-\$ 2,448.48	-1,828.68 %

Cash Basis Tuesday, August 11, 2020 03:21 PM GMT-07:00

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION — JULY 2020

California Northern Coastal Area Statement of Financial Position As of July 31, 2020

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	49,029.05
Prudent Reserve - Savings	11,037.41
Total Bank Accounts	\$60,066.46
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	1,500.00
Undeposited Funds	-36.90
Total Other Current Assets	\$1,463.10
Total Current Assets	\$61,529.56
TOTAL ASSETS	\$61,529.56
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	5,614.60
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	44,774.96
Total Equity	\$61,529.56
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$61,529.56

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 22, 2020

future / we had several sharing on how special this is and how as been essential but we need more discussion on can we support the Hispanic women instead of just giving money, how many are they now? what are the challenges? How can we help?

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

Thank you for passing the motion for us to use the area virtual account for District's 18 anniversary on September 27 / after the loving discussion, can we get some help to store the area equipment / I feel like Coree can we help to store all the equipment / I'm putting a request for donations of literature as a tool to help doing 12th step work please let me know (Murias District 03) / thank you Eric for receiving the conference at your address and thank you for your participating on the distribution / District 16 anniversary August 30, thank you for supporting the Hispanic women, keep the light on from area 06, I thank my higher power for that / 2020 Detroit's was cancel, writing a play its not essential but thank you for the letter of support / all the area officers at the District feel comfortable to have the

elections virtually ? / I still have the conference reports for you if you want an extra box (Eric L. CNCA Chair).

3:25 p.m. -Closing

- Miguel H., CNCA Panel 69 Recording Secretary

SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES August 8, 2020

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES FOR August 8, 2020

The Summer Assembly of CNCA was virtually held on August 8, 2020. Eric L. opened the business meeting at 9 am, followed by the Serenity Prayer. A Zoom Virtual Orientation was given by Jackie B.; the AA Preamble was read by Dylan R. (District 10). Karen M. (District 70) read the Twelve Traditions in English; the Twelve Traditions in Spanish were read by Salomon G. (from Mexico). Past Delegates and Trustees included: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Maine), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Jim M. (Panel 45), Salomon G. (Panel 45, Colima Mexico), Woody R. (Panel 50, CNIA), Sharon A. (Panel 57), David N. (Panel 59, currently a General Service Trustee), Jim F. (Panel 59, Eastern Missouri), Ken M. (Panel 61), Joann L. (Panel 67), Tom M. (Past Trustee), and Jorge T. and Omar (currently trustees from the Mexican General Service Board). Past Area Officers included: Margrete V., Judy W., Michael Q., and Ray W. The minutes from the 2020 Post-Conference Assembly Business Meeting Minutes were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – Teddy B-W: Please thank your groups for their

continued support of their Central Offices, H&I, and the General Service Structure in these challenging times. Our Trustees met at the beginning of this month and started sifting through the 58 Committee Considerations that were made at the Conference this year and I will be sharing a lot more about that in the weeks to come, but here are some highlights: We will be reopening the call for stories to update the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic." It looks like a presentation which the Literature Committee saw entitled, "The Big Book: Researching Issues, Possible Tools and Access" will be provided to the Fellowship, as soon as possible, probably after October, but possibly sooner. The stories for the new pamphlet, "A.A. for the Spanish Speaking Woman," have been selected. Work has started to prepare for the update to the pamphlet, "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic." The Public Information Committee is waiting for the Trustees' Finance Committees to weigh in before proceeding (or not) with the Google Grant Application for Google AdWords. I continue to deliver my Conference Report around the area and am grateful for your warm welcome and great questions. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on the PRAASA 2024 host committee.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Jennifer B: The Northern California Joint Committee Communication Meeting on August 23 will focus on how H&I, Bridging the Gap, PI, CPC, and Accessibilities can work together more effectively and make

SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES—August 8, 2020, Cont'd.

better use of technology to carry the message. While this pandemic is a new experience in AA, the importance of service is not new. I encourage all of you to look for ways to foster continued participation in your districts and your groups as we think about rotation and passing it on. It's also important that we still have fun. You can tell from the photos in the General Service Conference Final Report that the conference members made the best of their virtual time together. And it has been good to see many of you include fun with the fellowship at your virtual service events. We are not a glum lot.

CHAIR – Eric L: In this month's issue of the Comments – and in the next few issues – you will be able to access written job descriptions from Area Officers; we will be rotating at the end of this year, and electing new officers at the Election Assembly, which will be held virtually on November 7.

TREASURER – Dennis H: The CNCA treasury is in good condition, YTD contributions to budget are running at 80% while expenditures are only 38% of budget. We have a net income over expenditure of \$30,000. Our available balance is close to \$40,000. We have received the first seed money for PRAASA 2024 and will open a separate bank account. Website contributions to date have been close to \$3,000, in 157 separate transactions. If you wish to contribute online you may do so at www.cnca06.org/contribute.

REGISTRAR – Erica G: GSO formed what they are calling a task force of some Area Registrars—not including me—to help them fix things and ultimately to serve Areas better. To me that is hopeful and could be a sign that things may be functioning perfectly in the near future, probably just in time for all of us to rotate out. I appreciate all of your patience this Panel as we have dealt with these challenges. Please keep in mind that you can always access everything digitally that comes from GSO, including new GSR and DCM kits, Box 459, and the Service Manual, just go to aa.org and type it in the search field.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L. FOR MIGUEL H (Absent due to death in the family): Love you all, thank you for your support. Jennifer B. will be taking minutes today.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR—Coree H.: I'm excited to see our first (and maybe last) Summer Assembly hosted virtually. I always wondered if we had the capacity to pull off something like this, and it's clear that alcoholics are hard-wired for survival and adaptation, so I'm glad everyone is here! For our virtual Fall Election Assembly, we have a team of people coordinating with our sister Area, California Northern Interior, to make sure it goes as smoothly as possible. We are encouraging Districts to

start bidding for the Panel 71 Assemblies. Dates are on the website calendar. Contact me for more information. **LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – Magdaleno O:** Te new Communication Services Department at GSO has taken on oversight of many of our digital efforts and will serve as an internal agency supporting G.S.O., A.A. World Services, AA Grapevine and the General Service Board. Working closely with the A.A.W.S. Technology/Communication/Services Committee, the department is involved in a number of projects that have focused on communications and the development of digital resources to reach the fellowship and the others interested in our program of recovery. The *Big Book is available in 71 languages, with 23* languages pending and 16 new translations in progress, along with five revisions/retranslations.

STANDING AND SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES – Alan W.: We have elected officers, we are fine-tuning a draft of our committee guidelines, and we have a committee description up on the website. Coronavirus is making me think a lot about just how central accessibility is to who we are, both at the meeting level and here in General Service. Virtual assemblies make it even easier for a lot of us to participate, but that isn't true for everyone. We could share our cars, but sharing our computers and phones is a bit harder. We need to ask ourselves: What are we doing to make sure everyone can show up?

ARCHIVES – Denise G: Our current projects include: digitization of 2019-2020 records for both Area and Districts; revising our CNCA Guidelines; defining our Scope of Collection; providing needed materials for the Archives link on the CNCA Website; and documenting how CNCA has been impacted and adjusted to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are also discussing creating a new position of Alternate Digital Systems Administrator, and working on defining the responsibilities of that position.

BRIDGING THE GAP – Larry B: COVID-19 continues to severely restrict our presentation activity and ability to offer the hand of AA to newcomers in the facilities we serve. We were recently able to make some presentations by Zoom, or physical meetings that included public health considerations of social distancing and presenting outside. Many facilities are not ready to work through the logistics of setting up and coordinating Zoom meetings, but that may change. We continue to develop a Zoom template and look at ways to simplify our ability to accept BTG "blue card" requests. The 2020 BTG Workshop Weekend in September in Rock Island, IL has been cancelled and the host committee will plan for 2021 instead.

FINANCE – Don L: The primary responsibility of the Finance Committee is the preparation of the yearly budget

SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES—August 8, 2020, Cont'd.

for the Area. Over the last three months, group contributions have increased from 53% to 70% of the (pre-COVID) budgeted amount. These new restrictions have also reduced the Area's normal expenses and we will continue to have significant variances from the 2020 budget. We have begun the process of preparing the 2021 Budget with the input of Area Officers, and Standing Committee and Subcommittee Chairs. We will be presenting updated Reimbursement Guidelines at the August ACM.

PI/CPC – Jennifer B: : Committees are placing PSAs with local media and some will be doing virtual high school presentations when school starts. One district is working directly with their county Health and Human Services Department to develop guidelines for in-person meetings (indoor and outdoor). We want to be responsible members of our community and not attract any negative publicity for Alcoholics Anonymous. We have also been talking about rotation and sustainability in our committee work, improving our online presence, the impact of racism on recovery both inside and outside the rooms, and educating the fellowship about anonymity.

WEBSITE – Drew B: : An aesthetic upgrade to the website is coming—keep an eye on CNCA06.org. We have seen a huge surge in cyber-attacks and spam emails, but our defense systems are holding strong. Our committee meets monthly on Zoom and has started putting together our pass-it-ons for the next panel.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – James B: Interpretation is available at the globe/flag at the bottom of your screen (select your language). Thank you to our interpreters today Molly, Mateo, and Manuel. We will be looking at job descriptions and any changes needed because of the continued shelter-in-place.

OLD BUSINESS

- “That CNCA establish a standing committee on Technology.” – *presented by Dennis H.*

Discussion: Our District was not in favor. Not that there isn't a need, but the scope of the Web committee could be expanded. // It is needed. Groups have issues and could use an Area resource to reach more people and stay connected. // Was initially opposed because our various committees are responsible for their own needs and pandemic has not changed opinion—our committees are exploring on their own. // We don't know what we don't know. Role of Tech committee could be to look at options to carry the message. Right now, we scramble to solve problems as they arise and people are working individually. // “Web Committee” name doesn't mean we aren't available to help. We could rename the committee so people know to ask for help. // In the 1.5 years we've been talking about this, I started off being in favor but changed mind. We are mostly non-tech people on Web, I don't know if we have people to fill another committee. Is the scope of this new

Tech committee policy or hands-on? We could change the name and add members. // Virtual Ad Hoc Assembly committee will disband at the end of the panel. We can put another one in place if needed next panel. Absolutely a need to fill, but not sure if a dedicated committee is the way to do it. // Committees are formed based on needs. This panel we have people to solve our problems and it's important to make it permanent. // We need a lot of help. Our District thought we would be back to normal soon but the pandemic continued and we thought we might shut down. GSRs are scared and feeling inhibited. We need all the help we can get—standing or ad hoc. // I am opposed and I work in tech. We should make changes in structure and function of Web committee instead. It's unclear how this affects our budget. We have to ask if we would be served by adding or expanding. // What would have happened if our Area Officers had not had the skills? Would we have this assembly? In favor of adding Tech or expanding Web. Help needs to be permanent. // Was on Web and the ad hoc that looked at technology needs and have mixed feelings. Purpose of managing our technology—licenses, etc.—could offset costs of having committee. Web should have a singular purpose. Good structure would be for Tech committee to have Web as a subcommittee and to also add a Tech Officer. // I'm opposed. We can incorporate this into our existing committee. We need to keep the big picture in mind of how to serve and who we have available. // Our group was not in favor. The motion was not explicit enough. Minority opinion was that we need to keep up with technology. // The ambiguous nature of responsibilities may make for difficulty in getting people to join. No guarantee skills will be available. // As a Spanish-speaking woman, I feel it is important to have the committee and understand how we can be supported as a District. The pandemic taught us that. // Is a committee the right format? The Technology in AA forum exists—could something like that serve our Area? It doesn't seem like there is anything like the TIAA forum for the Spanish-speaking community. Is a committee the best way to solve that problem? // We just heard members of a remote community say they need this support. We can't wait to fine-tune when the need is now. // If I vote no on this, how can we create a combined Tech/Web committee instead? We agree on need but differ on how to create a solution. // Not in favor, but like idea of expanding Web to support. Infrastructure is there. // At the time the motion (which came out of an ad hoc) was made, that panel's Web committee didn't think they could add to their scope. This panel says they can. May not be right approach. // I am hearing the need but concern about volunteers. Maybe we can find a different solution. // At a Spanish-speaking event, it was hard to find volunteers in our Area and people from other states helped with technology. We need a committee to train more people. // We should redirect the resources we have rather than adding a committee. Will the Web committee continue next panel? // In AA, we do things with the

SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES—August 8, 2020, Cont'd.

least possible organization. // Important motion. We need an over-arching Tech committee, like in business, and roll Web into the bigger committee. Lack of people is not a reason not to form it. // We do have needs that are being pinpointed more. This is a solution, but not the best solution, and in AA we look for the best solution. // Hit in solar plexus by the need expressed by Spanish-speaking members. How can we better serve? Purpose of Web committee is on our website and not fully defined. Awesome if we could combine. // Too much organization. We have an active Web committee. Can they help us connect with tech people for immediate needs? // What is the cost to set up a committee? // Chair clarified that Standing committee members are appointed by Area Officers from a pool of volunteers and elect their own chair, etc. Cost is nothing to start, but expense reimbursement for chair travel can be nominal to hundreds of dollars, depending on where they live. Web is a standing committee that will continue next panel. The current Virtual Assembly Ad Hoc has members from Web and I&T committees and two Area Officers. The Assembly was asked if they were ready to vote, and members were ready to vote. Substantial unanimity (2/3) was required for the motion to pass. Tech explained Zoom voting protocols. Vote: 79 in favor, 48 opposed, 9 abstentions. Motion fails. Minority Opinion: Need should be met with creative solution. // Tech is a different skill set from website management. // Accessibility issue. // Today's format is proof of need and we have needs in other areas. A standing "Tech" committee would attract more people. // We need help to do a hybrid meeting. // We have a national technology forum, but communication would be helped if we had more locally. We could disband later if we don't need it anymore. // AA will find a way to support this. // I served on the ad hoc that looked at Area technology needs and many of us were not tech people. Putting people in a room just to talk about technology creates answers. // Having fire extinguishers before the fire, retaining info and ongoing knowledge so we can respond more quickly. // We send people to NAATW each year. That costs money. Virtual Assembly Ad Hoc expires and we need that in place. // I used to think there were no emergencies in AA and then the world shut down. Business cycles mean we won't do business again until the Pre-Conference next year. Web could take a while to restructure and make proposals at ACM. // We need to create the committee and it could try to get diversity in the fellowship. People are scrambling and this committee could focus. // We have no way forward without this. Tech committee could start by meeting with Web. // Try to live one day at a time, but today and tomorrow we have COVID and technology has forced AA into a new

world. Hope we use more, not less, technology in the future. // We have a new Communications department at GSO that works closely with other committees. There is an example there. // Berkeley Fellowship has a lot of Zoom bombing, so strategies to help support hosts would help people feel safe in meetings and feel comfortable on Zoom. // Older people and Spanish speakers need our help now and many who need our help aren't here today. Motion to reconsider; seconded. Vote on motion to reconsider: 100 in favor, 24 opposed. Motion to reconsider passes. Chair announced motion would remain Old Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly. After the break, a motion was made and seconded from the floor to fast-track the motion (and not wait until the next Assembly). Discussion: Important to my Sub-district to have this help. Vote on motion to fast-track: 69 in favor, 13 opposed. Discussion on original motion resumed: Nothing to stop committee from forming now and then a motion to combine if desired. There is a need now. AA is self-correcting. We can disband later if not needed. // Grateful for opportunity to fast-track. I voted against because of my District conscience, but see the need. // Excited to reopen this and support it. // It's an accessibility issue; glad we are talking again. // Good is the enemy of the best. Virtual Ad Hoc could be reformed next panel and meet our needs. We owe it to take our time. // Discouraging to see us act in an urgent way. Faulty premise that we can't meet the need without a committee. No emergencies in AA. // It takes time to form a new committee. Let Web expand its scope. I am available to help. Let's not let a name/title stop us from doing the work. // I abstained the first round because I didn't understand what it would mean if it didn't pass. In favor now. Many don't have access to technology. // Still not in favor. More bureaucracy doesn't solve the problem. // It took 1.5 panels for Web to redo guidelines. It will take time to get running. // Disturbed that fear is being used to talk us into a new committee. Name of "Web" doesn't prevent people from helping. // Tech committee is also about helping people who are not here. Web is specialized. I think we have interested members here to serve. // New Accessibilities committee is dedicated to collecting and sharing info to decrease barriers. So maybe Accessibilities plus Web. I'm a hard no. // What can we do in our Districts. It's inspiring for groups to hop on platforms and share experience. Dedicated to solving a problem might not be scope of a new committee. // Motion made before pandemic. I was opposed but listening changed my vote. Fast-tracking and Chair's rules are there for a reason. // In favor because I don't understand and I need to help others as part of service. // I want someone to help me set up and train people on comput-

SUMMER ASSEMBLY MINUTES, August 8, 2020

ers in my District. // If people aren't here, why aren't we reaching out at District level? Or group level? I don't see Area doing what we should do locally. // Concerns about committee structure. There is a need that would not be solved at Area level. They would not be going to individual groups. Tech committee would support Officers and Area needs. // Motion is to start committee without scope. All your expectations, fears and dreams—it can't meet everything, so you'll be disappointed. // Could be amazing. What else besides Zoom could help us? Why are people in my meeting opposed to digital basket? If it doesn't work out, disband it. // I do frontline work at local service center and 90% of calls are tech questions. Great need, but Area is not completely responsible. // Was afraid of technology and the Delegate report showed how Area was trying to give us info and that's why I am here today. Need more structure. // SF/Marin Central Office already has lots of information regarding questions and needs expressed here: 7th tradition, Zoom settings, safety, etc. // I would want more time to develop scope of an idea that sounds great on the surface, rather than fast-tracking. // Important to have permanent committee; tech advances daily. // Need to have a clear problem statement and we don't have that.

Second Vote: 88 in favor, 41 opposed, 7 abstentions. Motion passes.

Business meeting was closed at 11:54 am.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

I was excited that the Area spoke and we reconsidered, even though I was opposed to motion. // I want to thank everyone, including people who used to be in service to the Area. We do need to change as the world moves forward. // Participation is the key to harmony. Thanks for showing up. // This was my first assembly, to continue to talk about diversity and inclusion. I have had the n-word said to me in a meeting at the podium. // Someone who voted against interpretation years ago said to me he was glad a workshop was presented by a woman in Spanish. // We have a new international Mandarin-speaking group and one for Cantonese. Contact Vivian in District 07 if you do outreach for PI/CPC or know anyone who needs a meeting in Chinese. // Napa was supposed to put on this assembly, but great job, everyone! Napa feels like we had it here anyway. You are all in our hearts. We will bid again. // Sunny, radiant and profound assembly. I need to really hear and see people who are aching. Technology/Zoom meeting quality is getting better. I am inspired. // Orientation slide deck is available to anyone who needs it. // Some AA history: In 1937, a (white) gay man approached the Akron

group and asked if he could join and Bob said, what would the Master do? Would he turn this man away? And the group conscience allowed him to join the group. In 1945, two black alcoholics were invited to the 24th St. Clubhouse group by Bill, and the group said they could observe only, and they were encouraged to start their own meeting elsewhere. The cities that have high participation by African-American alcoholics in AA are cities that had interracial groups or black groups in the 1940s that were supported by their Intergroups. Even in AA history, we can see that black lives did not matter as much as white lives did. We have to acknowledge that if we're going to move forward. // District 12 Unity Day is October 10 and the theme is Unity Through Service in Challenging Times. // The hospitality and community we have is amazing. As a hearing-impaired person, the interpretation is outstanding. Normally, it would be hard to switch headphones with a hearing aid. // Thanks to Chair and all for maintaining professionalism and handling voting challenges. The Virtual Ad Hoc has served us well. // Thanks to all in the Area. We may not see each other in person for a while. I'm grateful to every one of you. The new panel will be able to learn from this experience. // Love the idea of a "Diversity Liaison." I will try to wake up Access or PI/CPC in my District. White people need to go out, not just wait for people to come. Faith communities are a good way to reach out. // Thanks to all the Officers for this assembly. I've learned so much. // District 16's 34th Anniversary will be August 30 and you are all invited. // Thank you, Eric, for chairing all our Assemblies this panel. I want to invite everyone to our Election Assembly, which the Delegate chairs. Kathi F., our Pacific Regional Trustee, and Newton P., Our U.S. Trustee-at-large will both attend and give wonderful info. // I've been intimidated a lot since I joined General Service. I don't think that's part of sobriety at all. // Thank you, Mateo, Molly and Manuel for interpreting. // Thank you, Jennifer, for agreeing to take the notes today at the last minute.

The assembly closed at 4:44 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

With love and gratitude,

Jennifer B., Panel 69 Alternate Delegate, filling in for Miguel H.

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 OF ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS

FALL ASSEMBLY 2020

“2020 – A Clear Vision for You” **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2020**

[CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM JOIN LINK](#)

MEETING I.D. 959 4870 3654

JOIN BY PHONE: 408 638 0968

Orientation	9am	9:30am
Presentations		
What Makes an AA Leader?		
The Third Legacy Procedure		
Area Officer Qualifications		
Elections	9:30am	12:00pm
Report		
Kathi F., Pacific Regional Trustee		
Lunch Break	12:00pm	12:30pm
Report		
Trish L., Trustee-at-Large Canada		
Elections	12:30pm	End

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION (ENGLISH/SPANISH) PROVIDED VIA ZOOM

AREA OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION: CHAIR

Job Description: *Area Chair*

This commitment has been a highlight of my sobriety. Being Area Chair pushes you to listen – carefully – and to trust the process, even when it is not going at the pace you would like or in the direction you envisioned. In our Area, we use “Chair’s Rules” (rather than Robert’s Rules), with a focus on keeping in mind what is best for the Area and for AA as a whole. The goal is to have the Area feel heard – and to be fair to everyone. It’s a balancing act at times, and you grow into the role. You need to be able to pay attention to everything going on in the business meeting – but you have to manage to control your voice, your body language, because you do not want to express your opinion on any business (even indirectly). We do not vote until we have discussed something at length, and we allow ample time for the minority opinion. The Chair explains what is happening – and part of the pass it on includes a lot of scripts and language.

You also become the center of communication in the Area. A good Chair will know what is happening in committees and at Districts and what potential motions may be presented. General duties and qualifications for area chairpersons are listed on pp S44-45 of The A.A. Service Manual.

The time commitment varies, but can add up to about 10 or 15 hours a week, depending on travel to Districts.

Monthly Area Committee Meeting:

- Prepare agenda in time to be translated, and make copies in English and Spanish
- Facilitate business meeting
- Attend other committee meetings and sharing sessions

Monthly Area Officer Meeting:

- Prepare agenda and other materials
- Facilitate meeting
- Take notes or delegate to another officer
- Maintain Officer District Visit Calendar

Area Assemblies:

- Prepare agenda in time to be translated, and make copies in English and Spanish
- Coordinate with orientation leader; get readers and timing light volunteers (can be delegated)
- Notify and prepare presenters for Post-Conference and Summer Assemblies
- Notify and prepare Inventory facilitator, Inventory recording secretary, etc.
- Facilitate 7 assemblies

Communication:

- Notify and communicate with members selected by officers to be on standing committees, ad hoc committees, and other projects
- Review minutes from Recording Secretary, review all submissions to website; coordinate much of the information posted on the website with members of the Web committee
- Ensure that Assembly flyers and other Area material is sent to the DCMCs and committee chairs
- Work with officers, committee chairs, and others to ensure motions are timely, and necessary communication is flowing
- Respond to phone calls, emails and other correspondence from members, GSO, etc.

Newsletter:

- Write Chair Preview, update the Motions page and CNCA Calendar every month
- Act as Comments or Comentarios Advisor, or delegate to other officer(s). The Comments Advisor coordinates the submission of documents to the Editor, ensures content is timely, and reviews the draft for errors

Agenda Topic Summaries:

- Prepare templates for each of the 13 conference committees and distribute to officers (all officers write summaries)
- Review and compile completed summaries into one document for review by the Delegate
- Help coordinate translation

Pandemic-Related (Could be delegated):

- Run the Area Zoom account (and ensure that there are no double-booked events)
- Email the Area newsletter to DCMCs for distribution

Other:

- Average of three district visits per month
- Keeper of the lost and found
- Coordinate Area picture at PRAASA
- You will likely be asked to participate in other events, but these are not a part of the Chair responsibilities

- Eric L., Panel 69 Chair

CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—SEPTEMBER 2020

CNCA MOTIONS – SEPTEMBER 2020

AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSEKEEPING MOTIONS

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- That CNCA incorporate as a California Public Benefit Corporation and retain the services of a qualified attorney to attend to the incorporation. – *presented by the Area Structure ad hoc committee*
- That CNCA retain the services of a bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer with both set up (once per panel) and to review the books on a quarterly or semi-annual basis (with Finance Committee approval as to frequency) to ensure that the Treasurer is adequately supported, to strengthen internal controls (by reporting to both the Treasurer and the Finance Committee Chair), and to make this service more attractive.
- That CNCA requires affirmation of auto liability coverage for any member or contractor that CNCA reimburses for mileage. The Area Treasurer will be responsible for collecting and maintaining such affirmation. – *presented by the Finance committee*

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Discuss ideas and options to operate CNCA on a more financially prudent basis
- Discuss content available on the Area website, and what might be added to improve communication
- Discuss how we can best strengthen the composition and leadership of our future trusted servants
- Discuss ideas on how to convey information regarding Area Assembly motions to the GSRs

AREA ASSEMBLY MOTIONS

OLD BUSINESS

- That CNCA requests that a pamphlet entitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: AA for the Transgender Alcoholic" be produced. – *presented by District 07*
- That AAWS publish a one-page summary of the six warranties. – *presented by District 08*

NEW BUSINESS

- That CNCA requests that a pamphlet entitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: AA for the Spanish-speaking LGBTQ Alcoholic" be produced. – *presented by District 40*

DCM SHARING SESSION August 22, 2020

11:00 am - Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the Serenity Prayer by Corey H. Chair. Our meeting is open to everyone to learn and participate on the topics. Area chair job description was explained and questions answered.

Presentation – Welcoming Newcomers by Will from Area 72 Western Washington. He highlighted the connection of this topic with Tradition Five. He shared some of the benefits of virtual meetings, mainly an opportunity to connect with other alcoholics across the globe, which presents an opportunity to grow our fellowship. He shared that increasing involvement in General Service can be part of this. He shared that we're learning new skills and tools associated with virtual A.A. He posed the question of envisioning what A.A.'s future will look like on a virtual platform and how we're going to do it together.

The meeting was opened for Q&A and open discussion:

- Q: What are the techniques you have found to keep newcomers coming back? A: Creating new commitments, such as sponsorship coordinator, greeter, speaker un-muter, waiting room attendant, etc., which has allowed more people to get involved. Emphasizing fellowship before and/or after the meeting. One member shared that her group plays virtual games during fellowship to make it fun, and reach out to newcomers via private message using the chat.
- Members shared that they have been encountering newcomers who have only been to online meetings. One member shared that they have Q&A after the meeting for newcomers.
- Q: Are you coordinating online meetings with the meeting guide app? A: Updating as best they can, but some groups are not updating central offices with information on their group. They've created task force on

how to support online meetings. Some groups don't intend to get rid of virtual meetings.

- A member shared how Zoom meetings may be a form of gentrification of AA, and expressed concerns about people living in shelters, asking how others address that? A: Will shared how Committees (e.g., H&I, BTG, etc.) have slowed down as a result of virtual meetings, but some are having discussions about new ways to reach new people (e.g., sharing speaker tapes, online recording, having people call in, working with treatment centers to allow people to join).
- A member asked to hear more about virtual districts. A: Will shared that his area is having discussions about it right now, but they haven't been created.
- A member shared concerns about availability of literature. They don't feel comfortable asking newcomers for their address to mail them, and asked for solutions. A: Virtual links to literature on aa.org. Central Office open on a limited basis to allow members to get literature.

Topic suggestions/speakers for next month: Group discussed potential topics for next meeting; previously suggested topics: 1) COVID cases rising and how districts respond, 2) how to improve our future, 3) the spirit of rotation, 4) How to General Service and Intergroup work together? Next month's topic: Spirit of rotation. Chair will invite a speaker from out of the Area.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah B.,

DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary

2020 CNCA CALENDAR—PANELS 69—71

	2020—Panel 69		
September	26—Area Committee Meeting	April	27—Area Committee Mtg. 3-4—Pre Conference Assembly, tbd
October	24—Area Committee Meeting		18-24—General Service Conference
November	7—Election Assembly, https://zoom.us/j/95948703654 hosted by Districts 05, 07, 08, 17, 20 & 70	May	24—Area Committee Mtg. 15—Post Conference Assembly, tbd
	28—Area Committee Meeting	June	22—Area Committee Mtg.
		July	26—Area Committee Mtg.
December	19—Area Committee Meeting (Note: 3rd Saturday)	August	24—Area Committee Mtg. 7—Summer Assembly, tbd
		September	28—Area Committee Mtg.
		October	25—Area Committee Mtg.
January	2021—Panel 71	November	23—Area Committee Mtg. 6—Inventory Assembly, tbd
February	23—Area Committee Mtg.		27—Area Committee Mtg.
March	27—Area Committee Mtg.	December	18—Area Committee Mtg. (Note: 3 rd Sat)
	5-7—PRAASA, tbd		

CNCA 06—PANEL 69 & 71 ASSEMBLIES

2020 Fall Election Assembly

November 7, <https://zoom.us/j/95948703654>

(hosted by Districts 05, 07, 08, 17, 20, & 70)

Pre-Conference Assembly 2021—Panel 71, April 3-4, 2021

Post Conference Assembly 2021—Panel 71, May 15, 2021

Summer Assembly 2021—Panel 71, August 7, 2021

Fall Inventory Assembly 2021—Panel 71, November 6, 2021

If your District is considering making a bid for a Panel 71 Assembly, please contact the Assembly Coordinator, Coree H, via the [web form](#).

PANEL 69 AREA OFFICERS & AREA MEETING INFORMATION

Delegate

Teddy B.-W.

Recording Secretary

Miguel H.

General Service Office

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
212-870-3400 [aa.org](#)

Alternate Delegate

Jennifer B.

Assembly Coordinator

Coree H.

Chair

Eric L.

Literature/Grapevine Chair

Magdaleno O.

CNCA

P.O. Box 884222
San Francisco, CA 94188-4222
[cnca06.org](#)

Treasurer

Dennis H.

Pacific Regional Trustee

Kathi F.

NorCal H&I Committee

P.O. Box 192490
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490
[handinorcal.org](#)

Registrar

Erica G.

To contact an Area officer or Committee, or get the password for any meeting, please use [the web form](#).

CNCA Standing Committees & Sharing Sessions

Note: Some Committees & Sharing Sessions have changed their meeting days & times.

For questions about meetings, including passwords, please contact Committee chairs (ideally in advance of the times noted below):

Accessibilities committee meets the 4th Saturday of every month at 10 am. Zoom meeting ID is 828-0945-2039. [Contact Alan W.](#) for password.

Archives committee meets at noon on the 2nd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 981-8745-2281. [Contact Denise G.](#) for password. The Archives mailing address is 185 Mayhew Way, Walnut Creek CA 94597-2065.

Bridging the Gap committee meets at 7 pm on the Thursday prior to the Area Committee meeting each month. Zoom meeting ID is 988-7891-7593. [Contact Larry B.](#) for password. BTG mailing address is PO Box 750623, Petaluma, CA 94975-0623.

DCMs' & DCMCs' sharing sessions are held before the Area Committee meeting on the 4th Saturday of every month. The **DCMC session** at 10 am is open to DCMCs and Alternate DCMCs only. Zoom meeting ID is 632-553-607. The **DCM session** at 11 am is open to all members. Zoom meeting ID is 632-553-607. [Contact the Area Chair](#) for passwords.

Interpretation & Translation committee meets at 11 am on the 4th Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 632-553-607. [Contact James B.](#) for password.

Literature/Grapevine/La Vina sharing session is 9 am the 4th Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 824-9101-6140. [Contact Magdaleno O.](#) for password.

Public Information/ Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) committee meets at 11 am the 3rd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 568-947-843. [Contact Jennifer B.](#) for password.

Web committee meets at noon on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 880-3494-4851. [Contact Drew B.](#) for password.